

Order Form

BUSINESS HOURS: 8:00 A.M.–4:30 P.M., PST

To order call: 1-800-995-4099

MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY • FAX 916-323-0823

FROM:

SCHOOL/DISTRICT (if applicable) PUBLIC PRIVATE

NAME/ATTENTION

ADDRESS

CITY COUNTY STATE ZIP CODE

( )

DAYTIME TELEPHONE

PAYMENT METHOD: ☐ CHECK (Payable to California Department of Education)

☐ VISA

☐ MASTERCARD

☐ PURCHASE ORDER

CREDIT CARD NUMBER

EXPIRATION DATE

AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

Item No.	Title	Quantity	Price each	Total
1503	Taking Center Stage		\$13.50	\$
1508	Mathematics Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve (2000 Revised Edition)		17.50	
1462	Reading/Language Arts Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve (1999)		17.50	
1472	Strategic Teaching and Learning (2000)		15.00	

CHARGES	
Purchase amount	Add
0 - \$15 .....	\$ 5.95
\$15.01 - \$30 .....	7.95
\$30.01 - \$50 .....	9.95
\$50.01 - \$100 .....	11.95
\$100.01 - \$150 .....	13.95
\$150.01 - \$200 .....	15.95
\$200.01 - \$250 .....	17.95
\$250.01 - \$300 .....	19.95
\$300.01 - \$350 .....	21.95
\$350.01 and up .....	6% of subtotal

Mail completed order form to:

California Department of Education  
CDE Press Sales Office  
1430 N Street, Suite 3410  
Sacramento, CA 95812-0271

California residents add sales tax.  
Shipping and handling charges (See chart at left.)

Or fax completed order form to: 916-323-0823

Visit our Web site: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/re/pn/rc/orderinfo.asp>

☐ Please send me a free copy of the current *Educational Resources* catalog.

**Note:** Mail orders must be accompanied by a check, a purchase order, or a VISA or MasterCard credit card number, including expiration date and your signature. Purchase orders without checks are accepted from educational institutions, businesses, and governmental agencies. Purchase orders and credit card orders may be placed by FAX (916) 323-0823. Telephone orders will be accepted toll-free (1-800-995-4099) for credit card purchases. Please do not send cash. Stated prices are subject to change. Please order carefully; include correct item number and quantity for each publication ordered. *All sales are final.*

PRICES AND AVAILABILITY OF PUBLICATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE.

For additional information,  
please e-mail the Middle Grades Office  
at [MIDNET@cde.ca.gov](mailto:MIDNET@cde.ca.gov).

*"This is a terrific book . . . almost 300 pages containing every conceivable resource for middle grades educators. . . . You don't have to be a California educator to benefit from this book. It really should be on the **active** shelf of every middle grades principal, staff developer, and teacher!"*

John Norton, Editor, MiddleWeb  
[www.middleweb.com](http://www.middleweb.com)  
Sponsored by the Edna McConnell Clark  
Foundation

*"I encourage you to make it a personal goal this year to familiarize yourself and your colleagues with this tool. I am excited about this document and its promise as a vehicle to drive reform. As a middle school principal I am already utilizing Taking Center Stage as a critical reference to guide reform in my school. This document will clearly inform our practices for years to come."*

Carole Carlson, CLMS President, 2001-2003  
Principal, Dartmouth Middle School

*"As an education consultant and college professor I have used this document to prepare presentations to guide middle school teachers and principals to strengthen their curriculum and assessments through content standards. Teachers and principals value the guidance that the document provides to them so they can continue to enhance their current philosophy based on middle school students' learning needs."*

Ginny Sharp, Professor, Education Consultant  
California State University, San Marcos

Taking Center Stage

A Commitment to Standards-Based Education for California's Middle Grades Students



California Department of Education  
Sacramento, 2001





They are not our youngest students.  
They are not our oldest students.  
They are those students who are  
in the center—our middle grades  
students. They are also those  
students who are often living  
through the most confusing,  
uncertain times of their lives.

*Taking Center Stage: A Commitment to Standards-Based Education for California's Middle Grades Students* looks at the needs of middle grades students against a backdrop of standards, assessment, and accountability. It provides guidance for California's educators to help them successfully implement a standards-based education for our young adolescents.

—DELAINE EASTIN  
State Superintendent  
of Public Instruction

*Taking Center Stage: A Commitment to Standards-Based Education for California's Middle Grades Students* was written primarily for teachers and principals. This handbook emphasizes the importance of a student-centered middle grades philosophy as a strong and compatible foundation for standards-based education in California.

The handbook examines standards-based education from several perspectives. It focuses on what some observers refer to as the technology of standards and answers the following questions related to standards:

- What are they?
- How do we work toward meeting them?
- How do we measure them?
- How do we report them?
- What do we do with the results?

- How do we target interventions when standards are not met?
- What do we do when they have not been taught?

Meaningful student assessments are central to effective instruction, and the handbook has answers for questions such as these:

- What are student assessments?
- How do they inform instruction?
- How many types of assessment should be used?

Components of a standards, assessment, and accountability model are identified in this resource, and answers will be found for these questions:

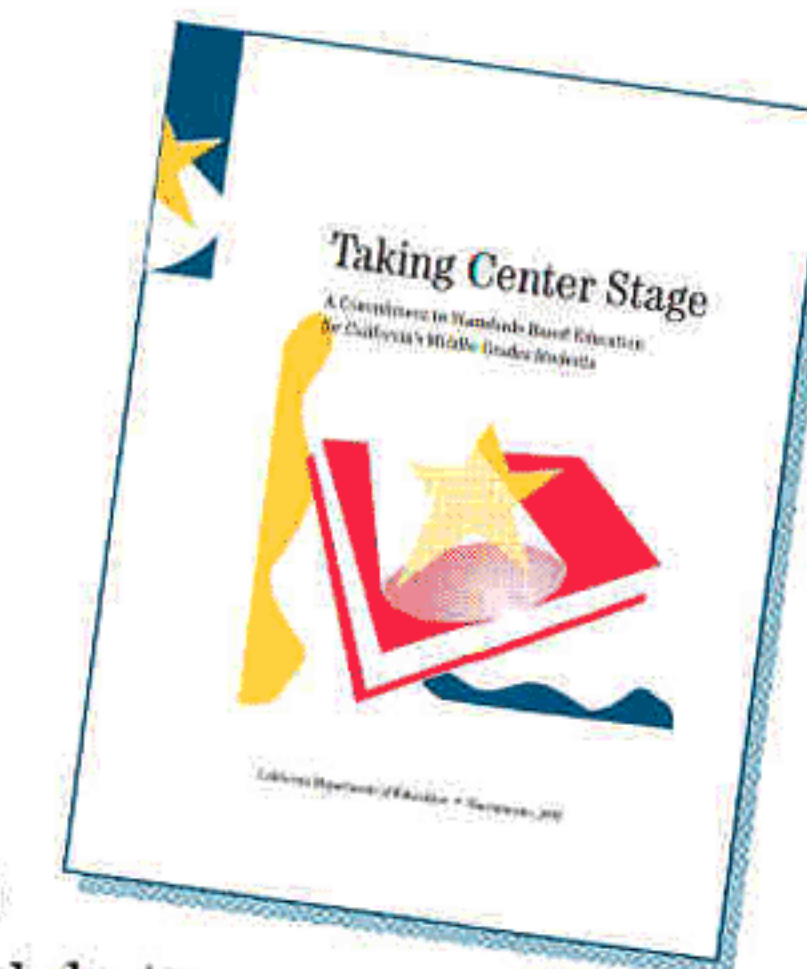
- Who are the essential stakeholders?
- What can we expect of schools, educators, students, and parents?
- What is California's plan for accountability?

*Taking Center Stage* serves as a toolkit of rich resources. The handbook contains helpful information for middle grades educators about what they need to know and do to make standards-based education a success.

Each chapter concludes with:

- Thought-provoking professional reflections intended to challenge teachers and principals to think deeply about the issues presented
- One or more user-friendly appendixes containing material related to the chapter

This valuable resource can be ordered from the California Department of Education (see the order form on the reverse of this brochure).



## Taking Center Stage

### Contents

Introduction: Key Elements and Recommendations of the Superintendent's Middle Grades Task Force

- 1 California's Middle Schools: Poised for World-Class Performance
- 2 Standards-Based Education Takes Center Stage: Content and Performance Standards
- 3 Assessment Takes Center Stage

- 4 Accountability Takes Center Stage
- 5 Middle School Philosophy Takes Center Stage: Defining and Affirming Authentic Middle Schools
- 6 Creating a School Culture to Sustain Standards-Based Education
- 7 Team Teaching: Made to Order for Standards-Based Middle Schools
- 8 Instructional Significance of Research on How Students Learn
- 9 Providing Time for Standards-Based Education

- 10 Academic Literacy: Key to Equal Access and High Standards of Achievement
- 11 Social Promotion and Grade Retention: Issues and Challenges
- 12 Creating High-Quality After-Hours Academic Programs in Middle Schools
- 13 Health, Safety, Resilience, and Civility: Correlates of High Academic Achievement
- 14 Standards-Based Professional Development at the School Site